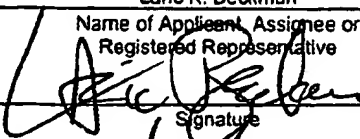


REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 2642

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being hand
delivered to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C.
20231, on December 28, 2001.

Laric K. Beckman
Name of Applicant, Assignee or
Registered Representative

Signature
12/28/01
Date of Transmission

#12/B(NEX)
LTJ8m
01-15-02
Entered
2/13/02
smc

Our Case No. 8285/238

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Maropis et al.

Serial No. 09/417,266

Filing Date: October 12, 1999

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
PROVIDING PRE-PAID LOCAL
TELEPHONE SERVICES

)
)
) Examiner R. Foster
)
)
)

) Group Art Unit No. 2645
)
)
)

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Box AF
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

CPA
Entered w/ [initials] of 2/8/02
TW 12/6/04

In response to the Office Action dated September 10, 2001, please enter the
following amendment, and consider the following remarks:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 8, 14 and 16 to read as follows: